



REGIONAL COUNCIL REPORT

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
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Riverside County Transportation Commission: Robin Lowe, Hemet

Ventura County Transportation Commission: Bill Davis, Simi Valley

MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 2003

RELEASE DESTINATION 2030 DRAFT 2004 RTP GROWTH FORECAST FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

On May 1, 2003, five growth projections were presented to the SCAG CEHD Committee. These projections were presented after rigorous and extensive analyses over the prior 18 months by SCAG staff and the Forecasting Technical Task Force (FTTF) and review by independent demographic and economic experts, subregional representatives, jurisdictional representatives, academic researchers, and other interested parties. The analyses incorporated future demographic and economic outlook in addition to historical trends at national, state, regional and county levels. Assumptions and methodologies for use in developing these projections at the regional and county levels were approved by the FTTF. The Regional Council approved release of the draft 2004 RTP Growth Forecast.

THE REGIONAL COUNCIL RELEASE DESTINATION 2030 DRAFT 2004 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR PUBLIC REVIEW

SCAG, as the designated MPO for the six county region of Southern California, is required to update its Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) every three years. The RTP represents a multi-modal transportation vision for the region over the plan horizon, which is 2030. It provides the basis for all federal and state transportation funding to the region over the plan horizon. Short term improvement plan known as the Regional Transportation Improvement Program, which is also considered as the implementation arm of the RTP, must flow out of the RTP. Furthermore, SCAG must demonstrate that the updated RTP meets transportation conformity.

In addition to proposed plans and programs, the Draft 2004 RTP incorporates a growth vision developed over the two year period. Incorporation of a growth vision into the RTP is meant to coordinate transportation investment decisions with the best possible growth outcome for the region. The Draft 2004 RTP outlines investment of over \$151 billion in public funding and additional funding in private finance backed by user fees over the plan period. The focus of the plan is to address the best way to invest this portion of the funding. Based on the performance measures approved by the Regional Council, the proposed plan performs better than the No-project alternative in every criteria category. For more RTP info contact Naresh Amatya @ (213) 236-1885 or via email amatya@scag.ca.gov

THE 2004 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (RTIP) GUIDELINES

SCAG is required under both federal and state laws to develop a Regional Transportation Improvement Program. The RTIP is the short-range program that implements the long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) to accomplish improvements in mobility and air quality. SCAG develops the RTIP in cooperation with the State (Caltrans), the county transportation commissions and IVAG, and public transit operators. Federal law requires that the RTIP be updated at least every two years, adopted by SCAG, and sent to the Governor for approval. The RTIP Guidelines are updated at least every two years by SCAG staff working with the staff from the transportation commissions to ensure that all current legal, administrative, and technical requirements are met.

In addition, these Guidelines assume continuation of all major federal programs currently found in TEA-21(scheduled to expire September 30, 2003) in the 2004 RTIP period which begins July 2004. The Guidelines will be modified if programs are modified, added and/or deleted in the next federal transportation act. The Regional Council approved the 2004 RTIP Guidelines.